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Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 L-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 NEA-10

AID-20 SS-20 NSCE-00 INRE-00 PRS-01 AGR-20 XMB-07

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---------- 123684
O 141550Z NOV 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 224629

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MO, US
SUBJECT: DISCUSSIONS WITH GOM
REF : ADDIS ABABA 12819

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY NEWSOM

1. WE SHARE YOUR IMPRESSION CONVEYED REFTEL THAT IN BI-LATERAL TALKS THIS WEEK PRIME MINISTER OR OTHERS SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF GOM WILL SEEK SOME CONCRETE ASSURANCES THAT GOM'S ECONOMIC AND MILITARY REQUIREMENTS ARE NOT BEING DIS-COUNTED BY U.S., PARTICULARLY AS COUNTRY ENTERS ITS NEW DEVELOPMENT PLAN. HOWEVER, WHILE WE CAN UNEQUIVOCALLY STATE OUR INTEREST IN GOM'S ECONOMIC AND MILITARY REQUIRE-MENTS AND OUR DETERMINATION TO DO OUR BEST TO HELP MEET
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THEM WITHIN CONGRESSIONAL LIMITATIONS, WE HAVE LITTLE THAT

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IS NEW TO OFFER AT THIS TIME BECAUSE FY 74 ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS HAVE ALREADY BEEN SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS. WE WILL, HOWEVER, GIVE PRIORITY CONSIDERATION TO ASSISTANCE FOR MOROCCO IN FY 1975 PROGRAMS AS OUTLINED BELOW WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT GOM WILL HAVE TO IDENTIFY AREAS OF COOPERATION WHERE IT BELIEVES USG CAN BE USEFUL. YOU MIGHT WISH TO REAFFIRM OUR DESIRE TO MEET IN WASHINGTON WITH MINPLAN IMANI WHEN HIS POSTPONED VISIT RESCHEDULED. FURTHER, USG IS PREPARED TO ASSIST GOM IN ITS SEARCH FOR US PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT UNDER NEW FIVE-YEAR PLAN, WHEN GOM IDENTIFIES SPECIFIC INVESTMENT PROJECTS IT HAS IN MIND. IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THIS EFFORT IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO HAVE GOM EXPLAIN FULL IMPLICATIONS OF RECENT MOROCCANIZATION DECREES FOR PROSPECTIVE NEW US INVESTORS AS WELL AS TO US BUSINESS ALREADY IN MOROCCO.

2. FOLLOWING IS IN RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC POINTS RAISED PARA. 4 REFTEL. PLAN TO CONSIDER DOLS 5 MILLION AID DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE LOAN FOR SMALL FARMER CREDIT HAS BEEN DROPPED FROM CURRENT AID BUDGET SUBMITTED TO OMB DUE UNCERTAINTIES IN USG WITH RESPECT FUTURE DIRECTION MOROCCO ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. HOWEVER, WE PLANNING HAVE SPECIALIZED DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (DAP) TEAM VISIT RABAT SOON TO HELP MISSION FORMULATE A MULTI-YEAR PROGRAM STRATEGY THAT CAN PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR FUTURE ASSISTANCE INCLUDING NEW DEVELOPMENT LOANS. SUBSEQUENT TO THE INITIAL VISIT OF THE DAP TEAM, DISCUSSION WILL BE HELD WITH THE GOM TO EXAMINE GOM PROPOSALS UNDER FIVE-YEAR PLAN IN WHICH AID MIGHT ASSIST. FYI: WE UNDERSTAND FROM AID RABAT SOURCE VISITING WASHINGTON THAT GOM PRESENTLY UNINTERESTED IN LOAN TO FINANCE SMALL FARMER CREDIT. END FYI.

3. GOM HAS NOT YET CONTRACTED FOR US PRIVATE LOANS UNDER DOLS 10 MILLION HOUSING INVESTMENT GUARANTEE SIGNED THIS SUMMER. WHILE IT THUS PREMATURE TO DISCUSS FURTHER HIG ASSISTANCE, WE PREPARED IN PRINCIPLE TO EXPAND OUR ROLE IN THIS VITAL AREA OF MOROCCAN DEVELOPMENT.

4. RE PL 480, TITLE II, FIGURES STATED IN MOROCCO FACT SHEET IN YOUR BRIEFING BOOK ARE FIRM. WE HAVE COMMITTED CONFIDENTIAL

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OURSELVES TO SUPPLY DOLS 12.1 MILLION IN TITLE II COMMODITIES TO VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WORKING IN MOROCCO. WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO CONTINUE THIS SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM IN FY 1975.

5. ON PL 480, TITLE I WHEAT, THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY OF ANY NEW ASSISTANCE TO GOM IN FY 1974. (MOROCCAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON APPLIED TO USDA NOVEMBER 7 FOR FINAL 7,700 MT

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TRANCHE OF TITLE I WHEAT AVAILABLE UNDER APRIL, 1973 AGREEMENT). IT IS POSSIBLE THAT WITH A HIGHER PRIORITY MOROCCO COULD HAVE A TITLE I PROGRAM IN FY 1975. THIS WOULD REQUIRE HIGH LEVEL DECISION IN WASHINGTON. RE CCC CREDITS, MOROCCO IS INCLUDED IN STATE DEPARTMENT PRIORITY LIST TO BE CONSIDERED WHEN AND IF CCC PROGRAM IS FORMULATED BY INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE.

6. WE WILL BE PLEASED TO WORK WITH GOM IN IDENTIFYING MODEST BUT IMPORTANT CAPITAL PROJECT IN NEW FIVE-YEAR PLAN WHICH AID MIGHT BE WILLING TO FINANCE. AID/W IS NOW STUDYING PLAN FOR POSSIBLE AREAS OF COOPERATION. HOPEFULLY, CLOSE CONTACT BETWEEN AID RABAT AND GOM PLANNERS, AS RECOMMENDED PARA. 1 ABOVE, WILL SOON REVEAL SPECIFIC PROJECTS THAT COULD BE CONSIDERED. FYI: IBRD IS ALSO STUDYING PLAN AND PREPARING FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH GOM EARLY NEXT YEAR. BANK PREFERS NOT TO SHARE IMPRESSIONS OF PLAN WITH US BEFORE STUDY COMPLETED. END FYI.

7. ON MISCELLANEOUS SUBJECTS, THERE IS PRESENTLY NO DIFFICULTY IN OUR ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS WITH MOROCCO BECAUSE OF CONGRESSIONAL RESTRICTIONS ON TRADE WITH CUBA. ALSO OF INTEREST IS FACT THAT EX-IM BANK EXPOSURE IN MOROCCO AT END OF JUNE, 1973 TOTALLED DOLS 28.1 MILLION FOR SHORT, MEDIUM AND LONG TERM LOANS AND GUARANTEES. EX-IM ALSO APPROVED DOLS 5.4 MILLION LOAN ON OCTOBER 11 TO FINANCE EXPORT TO MOROCCO OF GENERAL MOTORS LOCOMOTIVES.

8. RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE BEING PROVIDED SEPTEL. RUSH

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